

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of forming a cobalt silicide film, said method comprising:
forming a cobalt-containing film on a surface of a semiconductor substrate
having an insulating region and a silicon-containing conductive region;
5 forming a titanium-rich capping film on the cobalt-containing film to obtain a
resultant structure, the titanium-rich capping film having a titanium/other elements
atomic% ratio of more than 1; and
annealing the resultant structure so that cobalt of the cobalt-containing film
and silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region react with each other to form
10 the cobalt silicide film.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the capping film is one
selected from the group consisting of a pure titanium film, a titanium nitride film
having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1, a titanium tungsten film
15 having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a
pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic%
ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium
nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of less than 1, a laminated
structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a
20 titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, and a laminated structure of a pure
titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio
of less than 1.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the capping film is a titanium
25 nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1.

4. The method according to claim 2, further comprising, before the
formation of the cobalt-containing film, a pretreatment process of removing at least
one of a natural oxide film and impurities formed on the silicon-containing
30 conductive region.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the pretreatment process
comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate; and
etching the wet-cleaned surface of the semiconductor substrate by radio
frequency (RF) sputtering.

5 6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the pretreatment process is
devoid of radio frequency (RF) sputter etching.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the pretreatment process
comprises:

10 wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a hydrogen
fluoride (HF) solution diluted with deionized (DI) water;
 wet-cleaning the surface of a semiconductor substrate using a mixture
solution of ammonium hydroxide, hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2), and water; and
 wet-cleaning the surface of a semiconductor substrate using a HF solution
15 diluted with DI water.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the pretreatment process
comprises:

20 wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture
solution of sulfuric acid and H_2O_2 ; and
 wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution
diluted with DI water.

25 9. The method according to claim 2, wherein the cobalt-containing film is a
pure cobalt film, or a cobalt alloy film containing 20 or less atomic% of one selected
from the group consisting of tantalum, zirconium, titanium, nickel, hafnium, tungsten,
platinum, palladium, vanadium, niobium, and mixtures thereof.

30 10. The method according to claim 2, wherein the cobalt-containing film is
formed at a temperature range of 300 to 500 °C.

11. The method according to claim 2, wherein the annealing comprises:

primary rapid thermal annealing at a first temperature so that cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region to form a monocobalt monosilicide film;

selectively removing the capping film and the cobalt-containing film
5 remaining unreacted during the primary rapid thermal annealing; and

secondary rapid thermal annealing at a second temperature which is higher than the first temperature so that the monocobalt monosilicide film is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film.

10 12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the first temperature is in the range of 350 to 650 °C and the second temperature is in the range of 700 to 900 °C.

13. A method of forming a cobalt silicide film, said method comprising:
15 forming a cobalt-containing film on a surface of a semiconductor substrate having an insulating region and a silicon-containing conductive region, the cobalt-containing film being formed at a temperature at which cobalt of the cobalt-containing film and silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region react with each other to form a diffusion restraint interface film made of dicobalt
20 monosilicide or monocobalt monosilicide;

forming a titanium-rich capping film on the cobalt-containing film to obtain a resultant structure, the titanium-rich capping film having a titanium/other elements atomic% ratio of more than 1; and

annealing the resultant structure so that the diffusion restraint interface film
25 is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film, and cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region to form a monocobalt disilicide film.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the capping film is one
30 selected from the group consisting of a pure titanium film, a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1, a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic%

ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of less than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, and a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of less than 1.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the capping film is a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1.

16. The method according to claim 14, further comprising, before the formation of the cobalt-containing film, a pretreatment process of removing at least one of a natural oxide film and impurities formed on the silicon-containing conductive region.

17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate; and
etching the wet-cleaned surface of the semiconductor substrate by radio frequency (RF) sputtering.

18. The method according to claim 16, wherein the pretreatment process is devoid of radio frequency (RF) sputter etching.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water;

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture solution of ammonium hydroxide, H₂O₂, and water; and

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water.

20. The method according to claim 18, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture solution of sulfuric acid and H_2O_2 ; and

5 wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water.

21. The method according to claim 14, wherein the cobalt-containing film is a pure cobalt film, or a cobalt alloy film containing 20 or less atomic% of one
10 selected from tantalum, zirconium, titanium, nickel, hafnium, tungsten, platinum, palladium, vanadium, niobium, and mixtures thereof.

22. The method according to claim 14, wherein the diffusion restraint interface film is formed at a temperature range of 300 to 500 °C.

23. The method according to claim 14, wherein the annealing comprises:
primary rapid thermal annealing at a first temperature so that the dicobalt monosilicide of the diffusion restraint interface film is transformed into monocobalt disilicide, and cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the
20 silicon-containing conductive region to form a monocobalt monosilicide film;

selectively removing the capping film and the cobalt-containing film remaining unreacted during the primary rapid thermal annealing; and

secondary rapid thermal annealing at a second temperature which is higher than the first temperature so that the monocobalt monosilicide film is transformed
25 into a monocobalt disilicide film.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the first temperature is in the range of 350 to 650 °C and the second temperature is in the range of 700 to 900 °C.

25. A method of forming a cobalt silicide film, said method comprising:
wet-cleaning a surface of the semiconductor substrate having an insulating region and a silicon-containing conductive region;

forming a cobalt-containing film on the wet-cleaned silicon-containing conductive region, the cobalt-containing film being formed at a temperature at which cobalt of the cobalt-containing film and silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region react with each other to form a diffusion restraint interface film made of dicobalt monosilicide or monocobalt monosilicide;

forming, on the cobalt-containing film, a titanium-rich capping film with a titanium/other elements atomic% ratio of more than 1;

primary rapid thermal annealing at a first temperature so that dicobalt monosilicide of the diffusion restraint interface film is transformed into monocobalt monosilicide, and cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region to form a monocobalt monosilicide film;

selectively removing the capping film and the cobalt-containing film remaining unreacted in the primary rapid thermal annealing; and

secondary rapid thermal annealing at a second temperature which is higher than the first temperature so that the monocobalt monosilicide film is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film.

26. A method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, the method comprising:

forming an isolation region defining an active region on a semiconductor substrate;

forming, on the active region, a source/drain region and a gate, the gate having a sidewall spacer and being made of polysilicon doped with impurities;

forming a cobalt-containing film on a surface of the substrate;

forming a titanium-rich capping film on the cobalt-containing film to obtain a resultant structure, the titanium-rich capping film having a titanium/other elements atomic% ratio of more than 1; and

annealing the resultant structure so that cobalt of the cobalt-containing film and silicon of the gate and the source/drain region react with each other to form a cobalt silicide film.

27. The method according to claim 26, wherein the capping film is one selected from the group consisting of a pure titanium film, a titanium nitride film

having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1, a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of less than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, and a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of less than 1.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the capping film is a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1.

29. The method according to claim 27, further comprising, before the formation of the cobalt-containing film, a pretreatment process of removing at least one of a natural oxide film and impurities formed on the source/drain region and the gate.

30. The method according to claim 29, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:
wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate; and
etching the wet-cleaned surface of semiconductor substrate by radio frequency (RF) sputtering.

31. The method according to claim 29, wherein the pretreatment process is devoid of radio frequency (RF) sputter etching.

32. The method according to claim 31, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water;

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture solution of ammonium hydroxide, H₂O₂, and water; and

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water.

33. The method according to claim 31, wherein the pretreatment process
5 comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture solution of sulfuric acid and H_2O_2 ; and

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water.

34. The method according to claim 27, wherein the cobalt-containing film is a pure cobalt film, or a cobalt alloy film containing 20 or less atomic% of one selected from tantalum, zirconium, titanium, nickel, hafnium, tungsten, platinum, palladium, vanadium, niobium, and mixtures thereof.

35. The method according to claim 27, wherein the cobalt-containing film is formed at a temperature range of 300 to 500°C.

36. The method according to claim 27, wherein the annealing comprises:
20 primary rapid thermal annealing at a first temperature so that cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the silicon-containing conductive region to form a monocobalt monosilicide film;

selectively removing the capping film and the cobalt-containing film remaining unreacted during the primary rapid thermal annealing; and

25 secondary rapid thermal annealing at a second temperature which is higher than the first temperature so that the monocobalt monosilicide film is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film.

37. The method according to claim 36, wherein the first temperature is in
30 the range of 350 to 650°C and the second temperature is in the range of 700 to 900°C.

38. A method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, said method comprising:

forming an isolation region defining an active region on a semiconductor substrate;

5 forming, on the active region, a source/drain region and a gate, the gate having a sidewall spacer and being made of polysilicon doped with impurities;

forming a cobalt-containing film on a surface of the semiconductor substrate, the cobalt-containing film being formed at a temperature at which cobalt of the cobalt-containing film and silicon of the source/drain region and the gate react with
10 each other to form a diffusion restraint interface film made of dicobalt monosilicide or monocobalt monosilicide;

forming a titanium-rich capping film on the cobalt-containing film to obtain a resultant structure, the titanium-rich capping film having a titanium/other elements atomic% ratio of more than 1; and

15 annealing the resultant structure so that the diffusion restraint interface film is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film, and cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the source/drain region and the gate to form a monocobalt disilicide film.

20 39. The method according to claim 38, wherein the capping film is one selected from the group consisting of a pure titanium film, a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1, a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic%
25 ratio of more than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of less than 1, a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio of more than 1, and a laminated structure of a pure titanium film and a titanium tungsten film having a titanium/tungsten atomic% ratio
30 of less than 1.

40. The method according to claim 39, wherein the capping film is a titanium nitride film having a titanium/nitrogen atomic% ratio of more than 1.

41. The method according to claim 39, further comprising, before the formation of the cobalt-containing film, a pretreatment process of removing at least one of a natural oxide film and impurities formed on the source/drain region and the gate.

42. The method according to claim 41, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate; and

etching the wet-cleaned surface of the semiconductor substrate by radio frequency (RF) sputtering.

43. The method according to claim 41, wherein the pretreatment process is devoid of radio frequency (RF) sputter etching.

44. The method according to claim 43, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water;

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture solution of ammonium hydroxide, H_2O_2 , and water; and

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water.

45. The method according to claim 43, wherein the pretreatment process comprises:

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a mixture solution of sulfuric acid and H_2O_2 ; and

wet-cleaning the surface of the semiconductor substrate using a HF solution diluted with DI water.

46. The method according to claim 39, wherein the cobalt-containing film is a pure cobalt film, or a cobalt alloy film containing 20 or less atomic% of one

selected from tantalum, zirconium, titanium, nickel, hafnium, tungsten, platinum, palladium, vanadium, niobium, and mixtures thereof.

5 47. The method according to claim 39, wherein the diffusion restraint interface film is formed at a temperature range of 300 to 500 °C.

10 48. The method according to claim 39, wherein the annealing comprises:
primary rapid thermal annealing at a first temperature so that the dicobalt monosilicide of the diffusion restraint interface film is transformed into monocobalt monosilicide, and cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the source/drain region and the gate to form a monocobalt monosilicide film;
selectively removing the capping film and the cobalt-containing film remaining unreacted during the primary rapid thermal annealing; and
secondary rapid thermal annealing at a second temperature which is higher
15 than the first temperature so that the monocobalt monosilicide film is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film.

20 49. The method according to claim 48, wherein the first temperature is in the range of 350 to 650 °C and the second temperature is in the range of 700 to 900 °C.

25 50. A method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, the method comprising:
forming an isolation region defining an active region on a semiconductor substrate;
forming, on the active region, a source/drain region and a gate, the gate having a sidewall spacer and being made of polysilicon doped with impurities;
wet-cleaning a surface of the semiconductor substrate;
forming a cobalt-containing film on the surface of the semiconductor
30 substrate, the cobalt-containing film being formed at a temperature at which cobalt of the cobalt-containing film and silicon of the source/drain region and the gate react with each other to form a diffusion restraint interface film made of dicobalt monosilicide or monocobalt monosilicide;

forming, on the cobalt-containing film, a titanium-rich capping film having a titanium/other elements atomic% ratio of more than 1;

primary rapid thermal annealing at a first temperature so that the diffusion restraint interface film is transformed into a monocobalt monosilicide film, and
5 cobalt of the cobalt-containing film reacts with silicon of the source/drain region and the gate to form a monocobalt monosilicide film;

selectively removing the capping film and the cobalt-containing film remaining unreacted during the primary rapid thermal annealing; and

secondary rapid thermal annealing at a second temperature which is higher
10 than the first temperature so that the monocobalt monosilicide film is transformed into a monocobalt disilicide film.